GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1916
ANSWERED ON:13.12.2004
CULTIVABLE LAND
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Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of farmers in the country and the number out of them having less than 2 acres of cultivable land, State-wise, particularly in Karnataka;

(b) whether the Union Government proposes to provide electricity, irrigation facilities, manure and seeds free of cost to these poor farmers;

(c) if so, the details of the same, State-wise, particularly in Karnataka;

(d) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(e) by when the final decision in this regard is likely to be taken?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI KANTI LAL BHURIA)

(a): According to the Agricultural Census, 1995-96, the total number of farmers (operational holdings) in the country was 115.58 million. The number of farmers with operational holdings of less than one hectare of land (2.471 acres) in Karnataka was 2.61 million. State-wise figures on this are annexed.

(b)to(e): Farmers in different States derive benefit of input subsidy under various schemes. Studies have shown that small and marginal farmers also derive benefits from farm subsidy. According to one study, the combined share of marginal and small farmers in total subsidy in Indian agriculture in 1999-2000 was 36%, which is the same as their share in total operated land area. The study also found that the per hectare subsidy was the lowest in large farms, implying that there was no discrimination between farmers according to size classes in regard to agriculture subsidy.

ANNEXURE

Statewise Number of holdings, below 1.00 ha. (marginal holders as per Agricultural Census 1995-96)

(in `000)

S.No.	States/UTs	Marginal
1.	Andhra Pradesh	6300
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	21
3.	Assam	1669
4.	Bihar	11344
5.	Goa	57
6.	Gujarat	1034
7	Haryana	815
8.	Himachal Pradesh	556

9. Jammu & Kashmir 1041
10. Karnataka 2610
11. Kerala 5918
12. Madhya Pradesh 3878
13. Maharashtra 4266
14. Manipur 69
15. Meghalaya 72
16. Mizoram 28
17. Nagaland 9
18. Orissa 2145
19. Punjab 204
20. Rajasthan 1611
21. Sikkim 24
22. Tamil Nadu 5951
23. Tripura 247
24. Uttar Pradesh 16237
25. West Bengal 5003
26. A & N Islands 2
27. Chandigarh 1
28. D & N Haveli 7
29. Daman & Diu 3
30. Delhi 21
31. Lakshadweep 9
32 Pondicherry 26

ALL INDIA 71179